

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 BANGKO 03131 241446Z

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

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R 241139Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1037

S E C R E T BANGKOK 3131

EXDIS

PLEASE PASS TO WHITE HOUSE

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PDIP, US, TH

SUBJ: PROPOSAL FOR STATE VISIT BY KING PHUMIPHON

1. PRINCE THAWISAN LADAWAN, KING'S PERSONAL PRIVATE
SECRETARY, CALLED ON ME FEB 24 TO CONVEY THE KING'S
RESPONSE TO THE INVITATION OF PRESIDENT FORD FOR HIS
MAJESTY TO VISIT THE US DURING THIS YEAR. THAWISAN FIRST
ASKED ME TO CONVEY TO PRESIDENT FORD HIS MAJESTY'S DEEP
APPRECIATION OF THIS INVITATION SINCE IT REFLECTS THE STATE OF THE
FRIENDSHIP EXISTING BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES.

2. THE KING, HOWEVER, VERY MUCH REGRETTED THAT HE WOULD
HAVE TO DECLINE THE INVITATION THIS YEAR FOR TWO REASONS.
THE FIRST IS THE STATE OF HIS HEALTH. HE HAS HAD A LONG
ILLNESS FROM WHICH HE IS JUST BEGINNING TO RECUPERATE.
IT WILL BE SOME TIME BEFORE HE IS FULLY RECOVERED SO AS TO
BE IN SHAPE FOR A LONG TRIP OF THIS KIND. SECONDLY, HIS
MAJESTY IS VERY MUCH CONCERNED ABOUT THE GENERAL SITUATION
IN SOUTHEAST ASIA, AS WELL AS THE INTERNAL SITUATION IN
THAILAND. FOR THESE REASONS, THE KING DOES NOT DEEM IT WISE
FOR HIM TO ACCEPT PRESIDENT FORD'S INVITATION TO MAKE A VISIT
TO THE U.S. DURING 1975.

KINTNER

SECRET

NNN

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